Message Text

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UNCLAS MEXICO 12754

DEPARTMENT PASS JUSTICE, BUREAU OF PRISONS

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: CASC, MX

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF US-MEXICO PRISON TRANSFER

TREATY - LEGAL ISSUES

REF: MEXICO 12753

- 1. DURING CONSULTATIONS REPORTED REFTEL, A NUMBER OF LEGAL ISSUES AROSE INVOLVING PARTICULAR APPLICATION/INTERPRETATION OF TREATY.
- (A) ARTICLE II, PARA 4 THE GOM REGARDS ALIEN SMUGGLING AS IMMIGRATION OFFENSE FOR THE PURPOSES OF ARTICLE II OF THE TREATY AND INDIVIDUALS CONVICTED FOR SUCH AN OFFENSE WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR TRANSFER UNDER THE TREATY. U.S. SIDE TENTATIVELY EXPRESSED AGREEMENT THIS INTERPRETATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE DEPARTMENT.
- (B) ARTICLE II PARA 5 UNDER MEXICAN LEGAL SYSTEM WORK CREDITS ARE EARNED BUT NOT VESTED UNTIL A STUDY IS MADE UNCLASSIFIED

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ON THE PRISONER IN PREPARATION FOR RELEASE. HENCE, SO FAR AS GOM IS CONCERNED, THE SIX MONTH PROVISION WILL BE APPLIED ON THE BASIS OF THE TIME ACTUALLY SPENT INCARCERATED SUBTRACTED FROM THE SENTENCE IMPOSED, E.G., A PRISONER WITH A SIX-YEAR SENTENCE WHO HAS SERVED THREE AND A HALF YEARS AND OBTAINED SLIGHTLY OVER TWO YEARS OF WORK CREDITS WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR TRANSFER EVEN THOUGH

PRISONER COULD THEORETICALLY BE RELEASED IN MEXICO IN LESS THAN SIX MONTHS.

(C) ARTICLE II, PARA 6 - SPLITTING OF CASES. WE WERE INFORMED THAT CASES COULD NOT BE SPLIT ON THE MEXICAN LEGAL SYSTEM. THUS, IF A DEFENDANT HAS BEEN FINALLY SENTENCED BUT A CO-DEFENDANT APPLIES OR SUBMITS AN AMPARO, THIS WILL BLOCK THE TRANSFER OF THE OTHER DEFENDANT RR DEFENDANTS.

(D) ARTICLE VI - CONTRARY TO INFORMATION OBTAINED DURING NEGOTIATION OF TREATY, GOM NOW INDICATES THAT ONLY REMEDY AVAILABLE TO MODIFY OR SET ASIDE MEXICAN SENTENCES AFTER NORMAL APPEAL PROCESS EXHAUSTED IS ADMINISTRATIVE.

(E) DEPORTATION STATUS - PURSUANT TO A NUMBER OF PRISONERS' REQUESTS, THE ISSUE OF DEPORTATION STATUS WAS RAISED. AS IT PRESENTLY STANDS, GOM, ON BASIS OF "COMITY" WILL FOLLOW U.S. PRACTICE WHICH WAS EXPLAINED AS FOLLOWS: NATIONALS OF MEXICO TRANSSERRED UNDER THE TREATY WILL BE RECORDED AS HAVING VOLUNTARILY DEPARTED THE U.S., ABSENT A PENDING ORDER OF DEPORTATION OR EXPULSION.

2. EMBASSY SPECIFICALLY REQUESTS VIEWS OF DEPARTMENT AND JUSTICE ON HOW ARTICLES II: 4 AND 5, WILL BE APPLIED BY U.S. IF DIFFICULTIES PERCEIVED WITH ANY OF ABOVE, UNCLASSIFIED

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PLEASE ADVISE. LUCEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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